

**4 Corners Air Quality Task Force  
American Lung Association of Colorado  
One Page Summary  
Presentation Given Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007**



The American Lung Association was founded in 1904 with the original purpose to prevent tuberculosis through out the nation. The American Lung Association of Colorado of Colorado was established in 1908, and merged with the American Lung Association of New Mexico and the American Lung Association of Arizona in June of 2006 to form the American Lung Association of the Southwest. Today, the mission of the American Lung Association of the Southwest remains to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. This is accomplished through education, research and advocacy.

The core program areas include asthma, lung disease, research, tobacco control and air quality.

Asthma Facts:

- Since 1991, the prevalence of asthma in children has increased 74%
- In Colorado, asthma affects one in four families

Lung Disease Facts:

- Lung cancer kills more women than breast, ovarian, and cervical cancers combined.
- Lung disease is the 4<sup>th</sup> leading killer in the US
- Rates for heart disease and cancer are decreasing, rates for lung disease are increasing.

Air Quality- 4 Corners Air Quality Task Force

Poor *outdoor air quality* can lead to asthma, allergies, bronchitis, and lung cancer. Sources include: Motor Vehicle Exhaust, wood burning, power plants, emissions from Oil and Gas facilities, gasoline refueling, solvents.

There are an estimated 34,608 children and adults living with lung disease in the counties included in the 4 Corners Air Quality Task Force.

The American Lung Association of the Southwest commits to:

- Present to the Air Quality Control Commission on VOC/Ozone health effects
- Support upcoming legislation to increase monitoring in 4 Corners Region
- Support legislation to increase number of inspectors for oil and gas monitoring
- Seeking out potential partnerships for NO<sub>x</sub> regulation
- Promoting the expansion of Clean Cities to 4 Corners Region
- Release S.O.T.A (State of The Air Report) and educate the public on community results
- Increase partnerships with community action groups and community members

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